REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-13 and 15-46 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 4 and 9-13, which are the remaining independent claims, have been amended so as to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Claims 5, 14 and 47-61 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Claims 1, 3- 5 and 8-61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,832,470 (Morita).

Cancellation of Claims 5, 14 and 47-61 renders the rejection of those claims moot.

Independent Claim 1 is directed to a document processing system that includes document retaining means for retaining a plurality of folders each storing at least one document. Candidate folder selecting means select *a plurality of candidate folders* suitable for retaining a new document, by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders. Notifying means provide notification of the candidate folders selected by the candidate folder selecting means. Importantly, the notification is provided in a *list form, including the candidate folders*.

Thus, important features of the system recited in Claim 1 include the following: the candidate folder selecting means select a plurality of candidate folders for retaining a new document. The notification feature enables a <u>user</u> to select the best folder to retain a new document, from among the candidate folders. To this end, the candidate

folders selected by the selecting means are displayed in a list form to the user. Thus, an operator can determine which folder to store a document in as a result of the notification.

Morita has been thoroughly discussed in Applicants' previous Amendment, and it is not thought to be necessary to repeat that discussion in full. Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in *Morita* would actually teach or suggest providing a notification of the candidate folders to a user, as recited in Claim 1 (from the Office Action, Applicants understand the Examiner to agree with this reading of *Morita*). Applicants respectfully urge that *Morita* therefore certainly cannot, and does not, provide the required clear teaching of the feature of, not only providing such notification, but providing it in the form of a list including the candidate folders, as recited in Claim 1. For at least that reason, Claim 1 is believed to be clearly allowable over *Morita*.

Independent method Claims 9-11, and computer program Claims 12 and 13, correspond to and are similar in scope to Claim 1, discussed above. Thus, these claims are deemed patentable over *Morita*, as well, for similar reasons.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION OF CLAIMS MARKED TO SHOW CHANGES

1.   (Four Times Amended) A document processing system comprising:

document retaining means for retaining a plurality of folders each

storing at least one document;

candidate folder selecting means for selecting a plurality of

candidate folders suitable for retaining a new document by comparing a feature of the new

document with an average of features of the documents stored in a folder among the

plurality of folders; and

notifying means for providing notification of the candidate folders

selected by said candidate folder selecting means,

wherein the notification is provided in a list form including the

candidate folders.

3.   A document processing system according to claim 1, wherein a

plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list

of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

4.   (Four Times Amended) A document processing system comprising:

judging means for judging a similarity degree between document

information and a plurality of sets of information of documents stored in a folder;

similarity order calculating means for calculating a similarity order

of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity judged by said judging means;

and

notifying means for providing notification of the similarity order of

the plurality of folders calculated by said similarity order calculating means,

<u>wherein the notification is provided in a list form including the</u>

<u>candidate folders</u>.

5.   (Canceled)

8.   A document processing system according to Claim 5, wherein said

selecting means selects the folder through statistical estimation using the number of

information sets of documents belonging to the folder and the number of documents

matching the search condition.

9.   (Four Times Amended) A document processing method comprising

the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders each storing at least one document;

selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for retaining a new

document by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the

documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders; and

providing notification of the candidate folders selected in said

selecting step,

wherein the notification is provided in a list form including the

candidate folders.

10.   (Four Times Amended) A document processing method comprising

the steps of:

judging a similarity degree between document information and a

plurality of sets of information of documents stored in a folder;

calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance

with the similarity judged in said judging step; and

providing notification of the similarity order of the plurality of

folders calculated in said calculating step,

wherein the notification is provided in a list form including the

candidate folders.

11.   (Four Times Amended) A document processing method comprising

the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders each storing a plurality of sets of

document information;

selecting a plurality of folders from among the plurality of folders

based on a number of sets of document information containing a keyword inputted as a

search condition; and

providing notification of the folders selected in said selecting step,

wherein the notification is provided in a list form including the

candidate folders.

12.   (Four Times Amended) A computer readable storage medium

storing programs executing the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders each storing at least one document;

selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for retaining a new

document by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the

documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders; and

providing notification of the candidate folders selected in said

selecting step,

wherein the notification is provided in a list form including the

candidate folders.

13.   (Four Times Amended) A computer readable storage medium

storing programs executing the steps of:

judging a similarity degree between document information and a

plurality of sets of information of documents stored in a folder;

calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance

with the similarity judged in said judging step; and

providing notification of the similarity order of the plurality of

folders calculated in said calculating step,

wherein the notification is provided in a list form including the

candidate folders.

14.   (Canceled)

15.   A method according to claim 9, wherein a plurality of candidate

folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list of a plurality of

selected candidate folders is displayed.

16.   A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein a plurality of

candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list of a plurality

of selected candidate folders is displayed.

17.   A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for

updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the

candidate folder.

18.   A system according to claim 1, wherein the document includes

vector data.

19.   A system according to claim 1, wherein the candidate folder has a

high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

20.   A system according to claim 1, wherein said notifying means

displays a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

21.   A system according to claim 1, wherein the document includes text

data.

22.   A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for

causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

23.   A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of

updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the

candidate folder.

24.   A method according to claim 9, wherein the document includes

vector data.

25.   A method according to claim 9, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

26.   A method according to claim 9, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

27.   A method according to claim 9, wherein the document comprises text data.

28.   A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

29.   A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise the step of updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

30.   A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the document includes vector data.

31.   A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

32.   A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

33.   A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the document comprises text data.

34.   A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said steps further comprise the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

35.   A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means provides notification only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

36.   A system according to claim 4, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided by said notifying means.

37.   A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means displays a label set in advance to the selected folder.

38.   A system according to claim 4, wherein the document includes text data.

39.   A method according to claim 10, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

40.   A method according to claim 10, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

41.   A method according to claim 10, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

42.   A method according to claim 10, wherein the document includes text data.

43.   A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

44.   A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

45.   A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

46.   A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document

includes text data.

47.   (Canceled)

48.   (Canceled)

49.   (Canceled)

50.   (Canceled)

51.   (Canceled)

52.   (Canceled)

53.   (Canceled)

54.   (Canceled)

55.   (Canceled)

56.   (Canceled)

57.   (Canceled)

58.   (Canceled)

59.   (Canceled)

60.   (Canceled)

61.   (Canceled)

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